GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4344
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court had issued guidelines in 1996 for improving the solid waste management in Metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Civic bodies of metro cities have failed to implement the said guidelines;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard;

(e) whether the court has constituted a Committee to prepare a report regarding sanitation condition of metro cities like Mumbai and Delhi;

(f) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;
(g) if so, the details of recommendations of the Committee; and
(h) the further directions issued by the Government to civic bodies of metro cities to improve the solid waste management?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a), (b) and (e) to (g) In Writ Petition No 881/96, the Hon`ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 08.01.1998 directed that urgent steps need to be taken under a National programme to improve solid waste management in the country and constituted a committee for suggesting improvements in Solid Waste Management practices in class 1 cities of India which covered Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Calcutta and Banglore.

The committee submitted its final report on 25th March, 1999 and recommended the following -

(i) Modernisation of the systems for Collection, Transportation, Segregation Treatment and final disposal,abolition of open waste storage sites and unhygienic street bins;

(ii) To dispense with manual loading of waste and to provide for a synchronised primary collection system and bulk storage facilities;

(iii) Decentralised composting system with participation of the public and Non Governmental Organisations;

(iv) Financial assistance for strengthening of the urban local bodies and allotment of waste land to them;

(v) Creation of a Technology Mission for Solid Waste Management; and

(vi) Time frame for various cities to implement the recommendations.

(c), (d) and (h) In this regard, the Ministry of Environment and Forests published the finalMunicipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 on 25th September 2000. These rules provide for -

- Collection, segregation and disposal of municipal solid waste;
- Criteria for selection, operation and monitoring of landfill sites;
- Standards for composting and treatment of leachate from the landfill;
- Submission of yearly report on implementation by municipal authorities; and
- An implementation schedule for setting up of disposal facilities.

The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has constituted a Technology Advisory Group (TAG) for a period of five

years on 18th August 1999 to identify proven technologies for processing and disposal of waste, provide technical assistance to urban local bodies in adopting appropriate technologies, channelise funds earmarked for solid waste management projects in various ministries, develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material, promote capacity building in urban local bodies, etc. The TAG submitted its report in January 2001 and the report been circulated to all local bodies for implementation. Implementation is being monitored by the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation.